

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. DATE - TIME GROUP<br>16 Apr 49 16/2325Z   | 2. LOCATION<br>Fort Smith, Arkansas <span style="float: right;">297</span>   |
| 3. SOURCE<br>Civilian  | 10. CONCLUSION<br>AIRCRAFT   |
| 4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS<br>One  |  |
| 5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION<br>1 minute   | 11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS<br>Observer sighted a round object heading to the SE. It looked like a huge round mirror. It maintained a straight and level line of flight disappearing behind a row of trees. |
| 6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION<br>Ground-Visual  |  |
| 7. COURSE<br>SE  |  |
| 8. PHOTOS<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No            |  |
| 9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |  |

077e

297

REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED  
AERIAL OBJECT

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Date of Observation: 16 April 1949 Date of Interview: 21 April 1949
2. Exact time of Observation (CST): 1725 hours
3. Place of Observation:  
Intersection of 11th Street and Grand Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas,  
(approximately four blocks from center of business district)
4. Position of observer:  
Observer was travelling east along Grand Avenue (see attached sketch).  
Object was first sighted from automobile while observer was wait-  
ing for traffic light to change. Upon sighting, observer stepped  
out of car and watched object until it disappeared.
5. What attracted attention to object:  
Immediately after traffic light changed to red, observer stopped his  
car and glanced up at light. He noticed object in the sky at an  
elevation of approximately 15° directly above the light.
6. Number of objects:  
Only one object was seen.
7. Apparent size:  
Object appeared to be the size of a five-cent coin held at arms length.
8. Color of object:  
Object appeared to be colorless and bright.
9. Shape:  
Outline of object was perfectly round. Observer stated that no details  
of object could be seen and he did not know whether object resembled  
a disc or a ball.
10. Altitude:  
Observer believed elevation of object to be between 10,000 and 12,000  
feet. Angle of elevation above horizon was approximately 30°.
11. Direction from observer:  
Object was first observed at a magnetic bearing of approximately 85°  
from observer.
12. Distance from observer:  
Observer estimated distance from object as being between two and four  
miles.
13. Direction of flight:  
Object was flying in a southeasterly direction while observed.

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
AFTER 12 YEARS  
DIR 5200.10

4-3712-17

UNCLASSIFIED

38064  
Aircraft

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completed two and one-half years of college and two years in a theological seminary. He resigned his position in the Methodist ministry several years ago and has been employed by the Post Office Department since that time.

does not wear glasses for distant vision and his eyesight is believed to be very good. Upon being asked regarding the possibility of his mistaking a conventional aircraft for the object, he stated, "I am certain it was not an airplane. I observed it closely to see if I could be mistaken and it was just and I have described it to you."

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of Fort Smith, Arkansas, surface weather conditions from 1230 to 2030 hours, 16 April 1949 were as follows:

| <u>CST</u> | <u>Clouds</u>            | <u>Visability</u> | <u>Wind Dir</u> | <u>MPH</u> | <u>Temp</u> |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| 1230       | Clear                    | 20 mi             | SSE             | 2          | 63°         |
| 1330       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | S               | 4          | 66°         |
| 1430       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | SE              | 5          | 67°         |
| 1530       | Thin, Broken, 25,000'    | 20 mi             | WNW             | 5          | 69°         |
| 1630       | Thin, Broken, 25,000'    | 20 mi             | W               | 10         | 71°         |
| 1730       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | SSW             | 10         | 72°         |
| 1830       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | SW              | 10         | 69°         |
| 1930       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | SSW             | 6          | 61°         |
| 2030       | Thin, Scattered, 25,000' | 20 mi             | S               | 4          | 56°         |

2. No winds aloft graphs or adiabatic charts are prepared by the Fort Smith office of the US Weather Bureau.
3. No commercial airline flights were in the vicinity at the time of sighting. Braniff Air Lines flight from Little Rock, Arkansas, arrived at the Fort Smith airport at 1550 hrs on 16 April. It departed for Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 1600 hrs. The next scheduled flight arrived at Fort Smith at 2305 hrs. At least two privately owned aircraft were believed to be flying in the vicinity at the time but no record is kept of these flights. No military aircraft were believed to be in the vicinity at the time.
4. No weather balloons or other testing devices are released by the Fort Smith office of the US Weather Bureau. Nearest point of release for such devices is believed to be at the Municipal Airport, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tulsa is located approximately 100 air miles northwest of Fort Smith.
5. No soil samples were obtained as object is not believed to have contacted earth.
6. Sketch of terrain surrounding point of observation is attached as enclosure No 1.

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[REDACTED]

14. Time in sight:  
Approximately one minute

15. Speed: **UNCLASSIFIED**  
Observer estimated speed of object at 200 miles per hour. Approximately one minute was required for object to cover an angular distance of 15°. Line of flight was away from observer at an approximate angle of 45°.

16. Sound and Odor:  
No sound or odor were noticed.

17. Trail:  
No trail was seen.

18. Luminosity:  
Object appeared to be visible by reflection. Observer stated that object looked like a "huge round-mirror." No reflected rays of sunlight were noticed.

19. Projections:  
No projections were noticed.

20. Maneuvers:  
Object maintained a straight and level line of flight during observation.

21. Manner of disappearance:  
Object disappeared behind a row of trees located at a magnetic bearing of approximately 100° from observer.

22. Effect on clouds:  
No clouds were observed in the vicinity of object.

23. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:  
Weather was clear and visibility good at time of sighting. The sun was shining and light was excellent.

24. Additional information:  
During observation, witness said he pointed out object to several other persons who had gotten out of cars in the line of traffic behind his vehicle. Identity of these persons was unknown to observer. No other reports of the sighting have been received.

Observers name is [REDACTED]. His address is [REDACTED], Fort Smith, Arkansas. He is 52 years of age and is employed as a special delivery messenger by the US Post Office at Fort Smith. He lives on an acreage on the outskirts of Fort Smith and devotes his spare time to farming and gardening.

[REDACTED] has an excellent reputation in the community. His immediate superior at the local Post Office as well as other acquaintances regard him highly. One neighbor, in commenting on his integrity, stated "If [REDACTED] says anything's so, it's so." [REDACTED]

**UNCLASSIFIED**

[REDACTED]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1 AKADB

26 April 1949

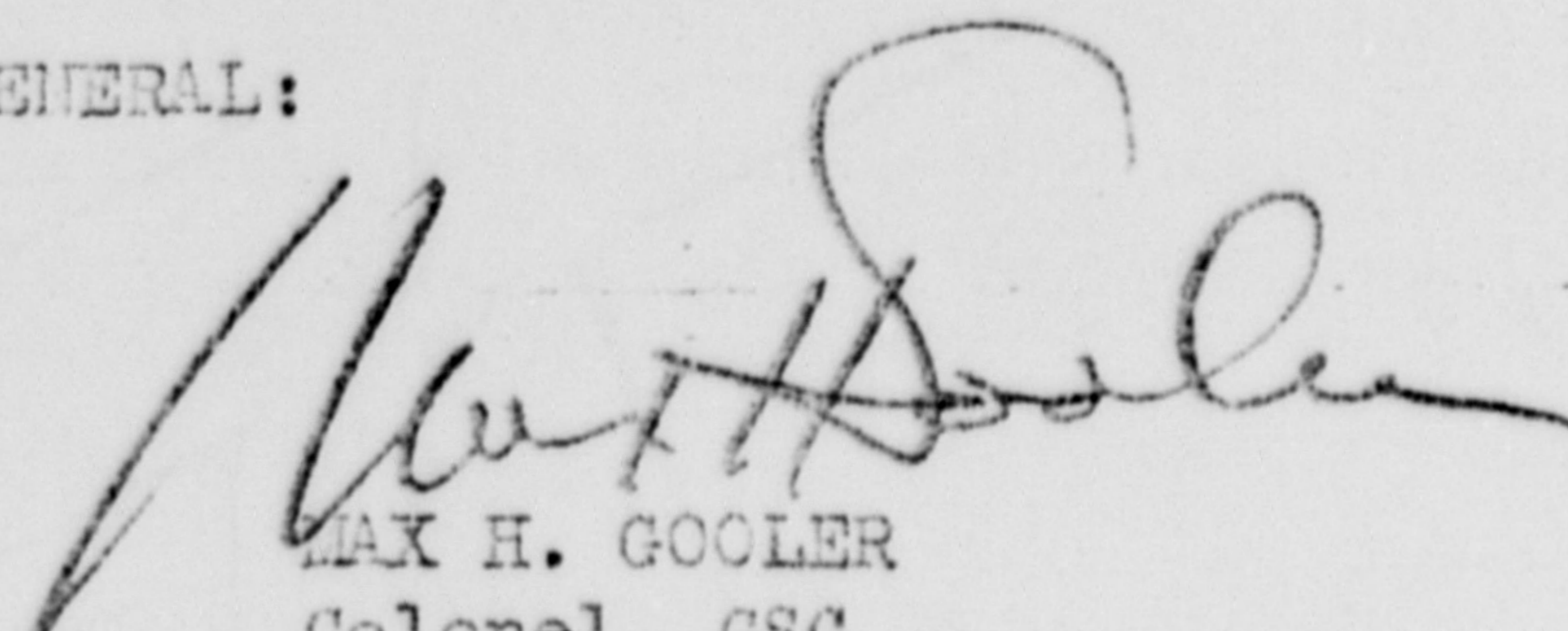
SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomenon

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: M.C.I.

1. Reference letter, Director of Intelligence, General Staff, United States Army, CSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft," and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Inclosed Report of Unidentified Aerial Object re sighting at Fort Smith Arkansas, 16 April 1949, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

  
MAX H. GOZLER  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl  
As stated

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

3 38064

5-2

UNCLASSIFIED



"C" Street

GRAND AVENUE

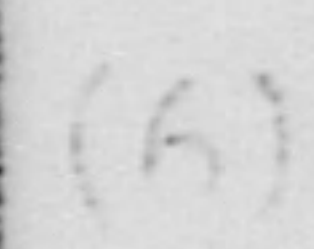
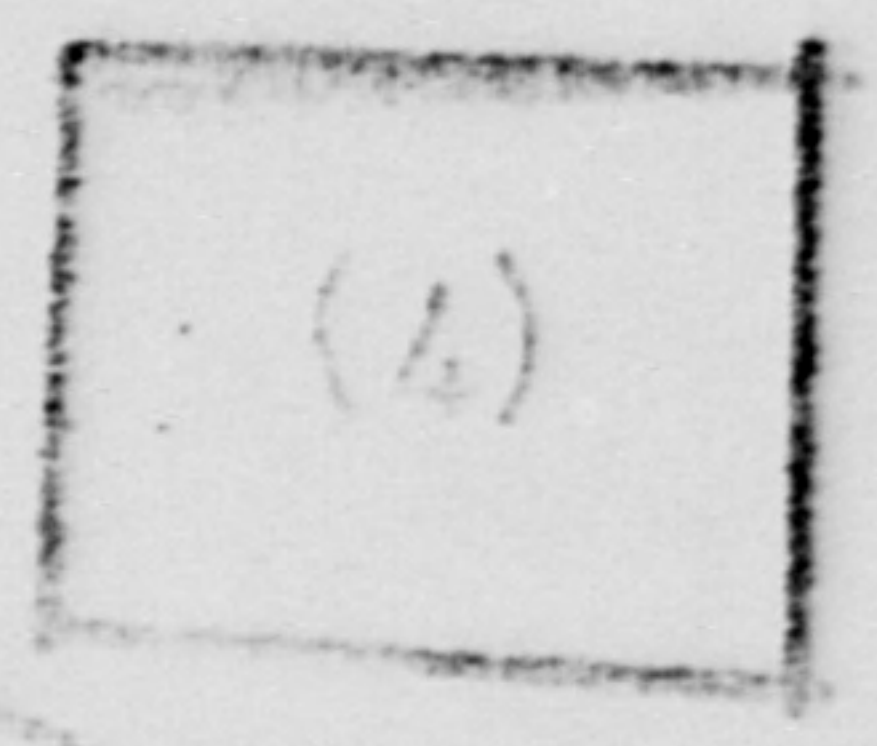
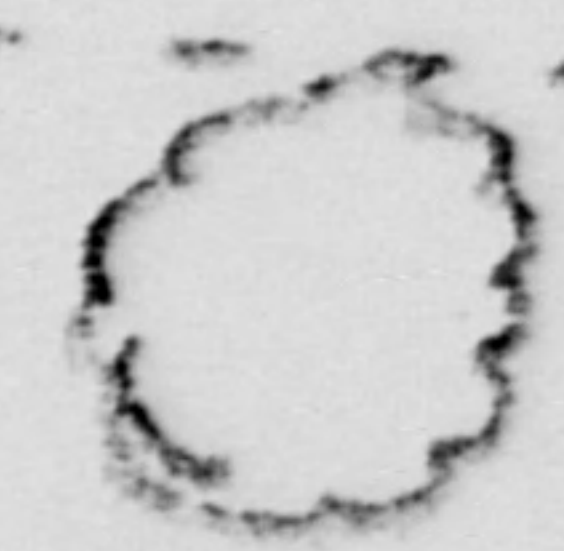
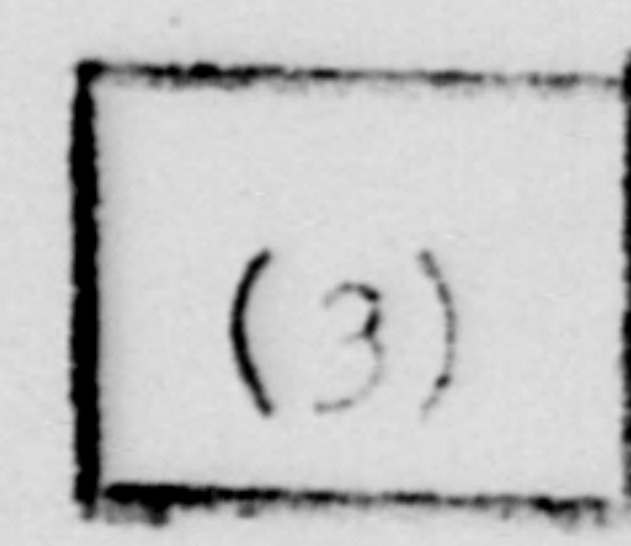
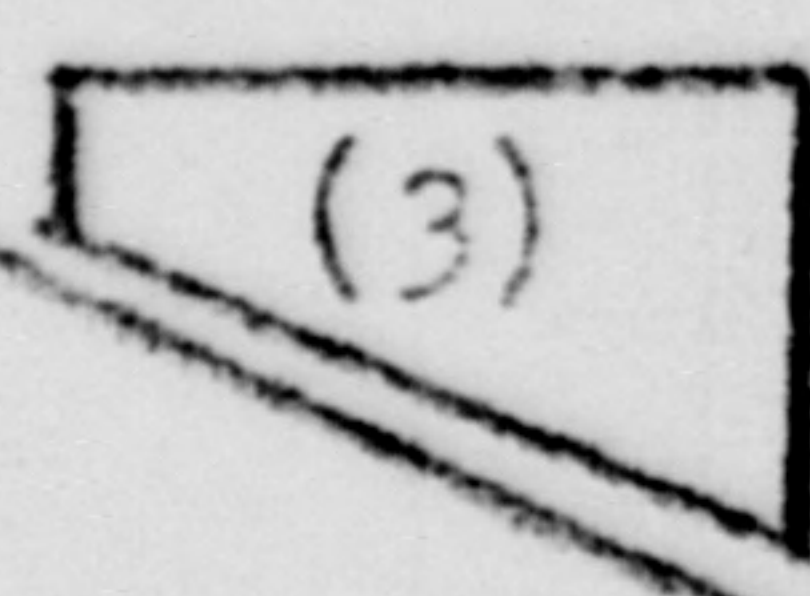
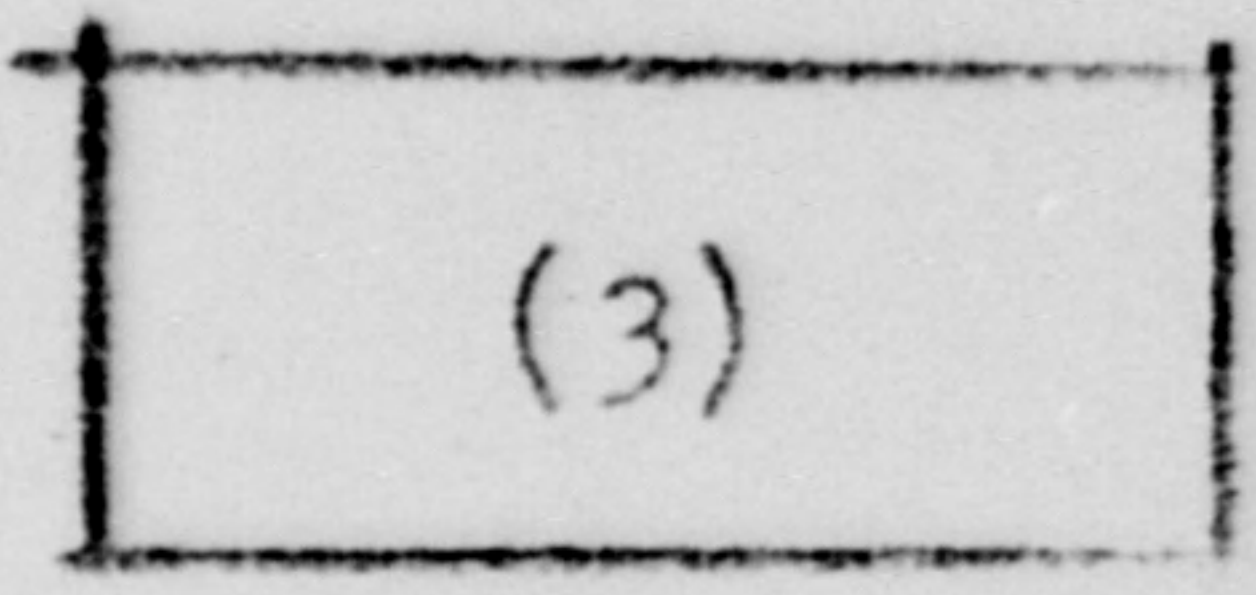
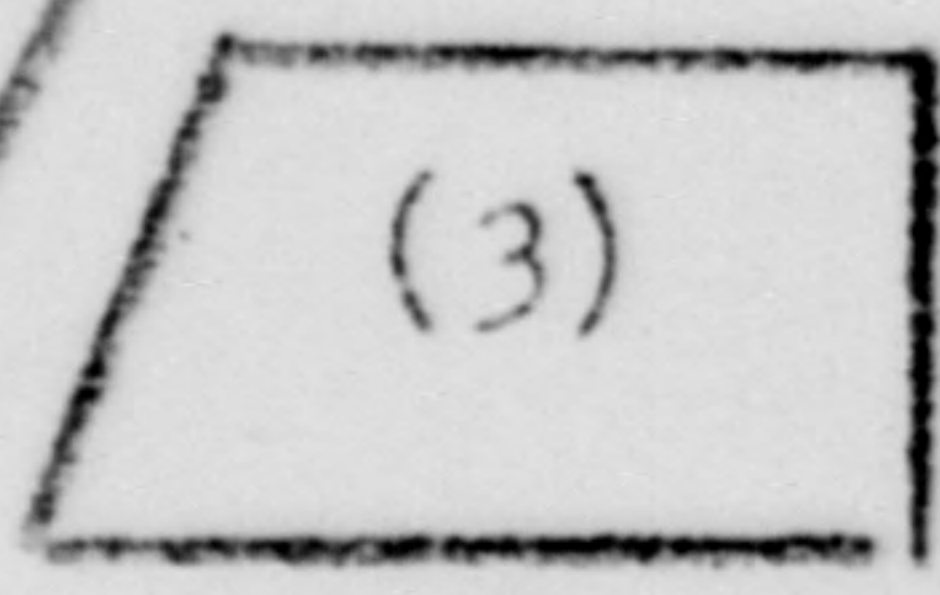
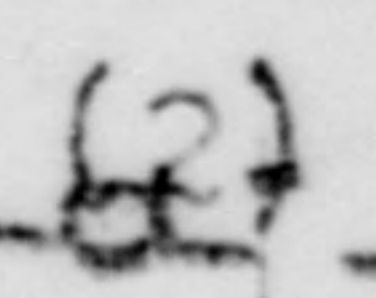
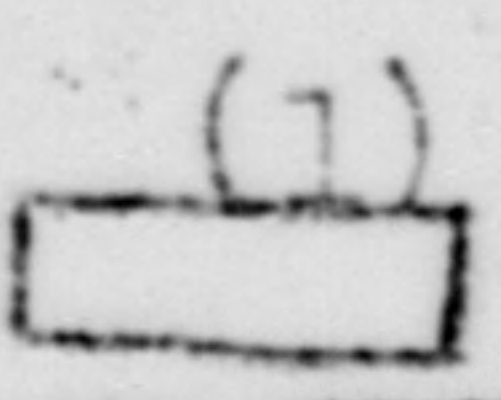
11th Street

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
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DOB DIR 5000 10

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- (1) Automobile of observer
- (2) Traffic light
- (3) Buisness buildings
- (4) Residence
- (5) Row of large trees
- (6) Angle of observation



|                            |  |                                  |   |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| CONTROL NO.<br>Q - 23      | SUBJECT: Ltr<br>Aerial Phenomenon<br>Secret. S-33064 | DECIMAL FILE NO. _____<br>Q 95-6 | FOLLOW UP ON<br>DATE  |
| FROM: Ft Sam Houston Texas | DATED 4/25/49  | NO. INCLS. 1                     |   |
| TO: IAXS                   | RECORDING AXT-1                                      | DATE 5/2/49                      | 1100  |
| DESK                       | RECORDED   | HOUR                             |   |
| ROUTED TO                  | SUSPENSE DATE  | ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)        | DATE  |
| 1 IAXS                     | N/R  | HWT                              | 5 May   |
| 2                          |  |                                  |   |
| 3                          |  |                                  |   |
| DATE OF REPLY              | OTHER DISPOSITION:                                   |                                  | TRANSMITTAL<br>AHC FORM NO. 10-2<br>(23 NOV. 47)<br>SEE OTHER SIDE<br>FOR REMARKS |

TRANSMITTAL

RESTRICTED

ATSC FORM NO. 80-506 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: 119451 DATE 4-2-49 HOUR 5:37 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 3 302

|                                     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| INCOMING                            | INTER-OFFICE             | OUTGOING                 | COMPLETE FILE COPY       | L. PY                    | NO FILE COPY             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

FROM: U S JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF WASHINGTON D C TO: US ARMY AIRC

REG. NO. 119451 NCI

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

REF 4-26 (2-2P) AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

INCLOSURES:

1 REF 4-21 (1-4P)

**5**

| TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL) | COPY NO. | REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE) | DATE REC'D | HOUR |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------------|------------|------|
| 1                   |          |                           |            |      |
| 2 <u>1013</u>       |          |                           |            |      |
| 3                   |          |                           |            |      |
| 4                   |          |                           |            |      |

RESTRICTED

**HAND RECEIPT**

RA RESTRICTED **do**

ATSC FORM NO. 50-508 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: **MCAG121** DATE: **5-2-49** HOUR: **937** IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: **S 38064**

INCOMING  (EP-ICE)   OUTGOING  COMPLETE FILE COPY  INCOI FILE  NO FILE COPY

FROM: **C. J. FORT SAN HOUSTON TEX** TO: **CG AWC ATTN:**

REG. NO. **119431** **NCI**

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

**ITE 4-26 (2-2P) AERIAL. FREEMASON**

INCLOSURES:

**#1 RPT 4-21 (1-4P)**

**3**

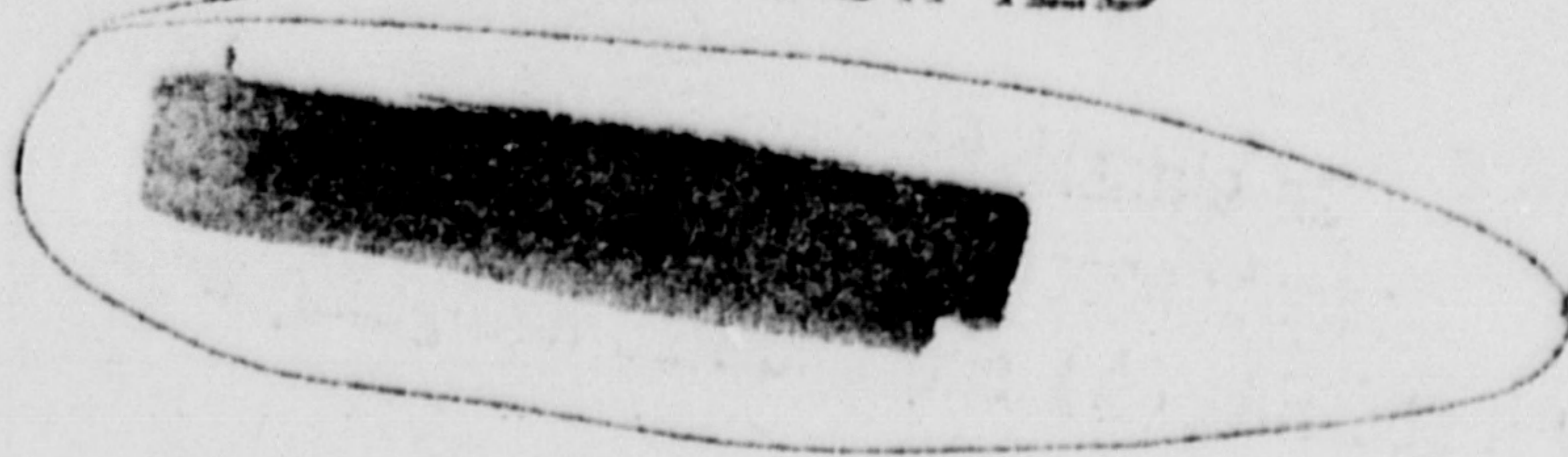
| TO: (OF SYMBOL) | COPY NO. | REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE) | DATE REC'D | HOUR |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------------|------------|------|
| 1               |          | <i>Allen M. Hall</i>      | 5-2        | 1040 |
| 2 <b>1A X 5</b> |          | <i>James R. ...</i>       | 5-2-49     | 1320 |
| 3               |          |                           |            |      |
| 4               |          |                           |            |      |

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INCOMING MESSAGE

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WHE

FROM BIRMINGHAM 555 BY AIRMAIL DIV CP CHAFFER ARK /  
TO APO WPAFB  
INFO 4TH ARMY FORT SMITH HOUSTON TEXAS

IN REPLY REFER TO APOW 4-376 REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL  
OBJECT #011307; PROJECT NUMBER 1; UNIT OF OBSERVATION 15  
APR 49; DATE OF INTERVIEW 22 APR 49; START LOCAL TIME OF  
OBSERVATION 1725; PLACE OF OBSERVATION INTERSECTION OF GRAND  
AVENUE AND ELEVENTH STREET, FORT SMITH ARKANSAS; MAP COORDINATES  
(1296.3-1302.8) SHEET NUMBER 1 PHOTO MAP CAMP GRANT ARK-OKLA  
DATED 1943 SCALE 1 TO 62500. OBSERVER WAS DRIVER OF AUTO;  
OBSERVER'S ATTENTION WAS ATTRACTED TO OBJECT WHILE HE WAS  
WAITING THE STOP LIGHT AT THE INTERSECTION AND WAITING FOR  
IT TO TURN GREEN; ONLY 1 OBJECT SIGHTED; SIZE COMPARED TO  
A NICKEL HELD AT ARM'S LENGTH; ACCORDING TO OBSERVER OBJECT  
LOOKED LIKE A SMALL MOON OF A CLEAR BRIGHT - PERFECTLY ROUND/  
AND SURROUNDED BY A CLEAR WHITE LIGHT WITH EDGES CLEARLY

-1 29

ACTION COPY

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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This copy will be safeguarded with the greatest care until action is completed, at which time it will  
MCAAG Form No. 72A be prepared for destruction in accordance with Section IV, Hq. Office Instruction No. 11-2.  
(Rev 25 Oct 48)

WF-L-16 NOV 48 TOM

INCOMING MESSAGE

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PAGE 2 NR 15 27 APR 49

VISIBLE. OBJECT WAS SHINY; 0 DEGREES AZIMUTH; AT LEAST 3 MILES FROM OBSERVER; AND APPROXIMATELY 5 TO 7000 FEET HIGH, MOVING IN A SOUTHEASTLY DIRECTION AT A RAPID RATE OF SPEED AT AN ANGLE OF ABOUT 23 DEGREES FROM HORIZON. OBJECT TRAVELED AN ESTIMATED 8 TO 10 SEC DURING THE 30 SEC OBSERVATION PERIOD. COLOR, SHAP, SIZE, AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS NOT VISIBLE BY REFLECTION AND DISAPPEARED IMMEDIATELY (SEE PARAGRAPH ABOVE). WEATHER WAS CLEAR, BRIGHT, AND WINDS NEAR OBJECT. OBSERVER FADING AWAY FROM THE AREA. OBJECT DISAPPEARED BEHIND TREE LINE. EVALUATION OF REPORT 1-3 BY NAME OF OBSERVER [REDACTED] WITH ADDRESS, SPECIAL DELIVERY CARRIER FOR US POST OFFICE NEW YORK STATE. HOBBY OF [REDACTED] IS RAISING BEEF CATTLE AND FARMING. HE WAS NOT WEARING GLASSES AT TIME OF SIGHTING; SIGHTED OBJECT THROUGH WINDSHIELD OF CAR. [REDACTED] WEARS GLASSES ONLY FOR READING.

*1. [REDACTED] A- [REDACTED]*  
*2. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]*  
*3. [REDACTED]*  
*4. [REDACTED]*

-1

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS-  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
 DOD DIR 5200.10

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297

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INCIDENT NO. 297

23

1. Date of Observation 16 April 49 Date of Interview 22 April 49
2. Exact time (local) 1725
3. Place of Observation Fort Smith, Arkansas
4. Position of observer In Auto, facing away from sun
5. What attracted attention to object -
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Size of Nickel at arms length
8. Color of object of moon, shiny
9. Shape Round surrounded by a clear white light with edges visible  
*Did not know if object was ball or disc*
10. Altitude 5,000-7,000-ft. 25° from horizon  
*10,000-12,000' 30*
11. Direction from observer 85°
12. Distance from observer 3 miles 4 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Southeasterly
14. Time in sight 60 seconds
15. Speed rapid, object traveled 8-10° in 30 seconds  
*200MPH 1 min*
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity reflection and incandescent
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance disappeared behind tree line
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather conditions clear, bright, no clouds near object

(over)

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|               |                          |                  |                           |   |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| CONTROL NO.   | SUBJECT:                 | DECIMAL FILE NO. | FOLLOW UP ON              |   |
| P- 992        | Inc Msg Cite AKDDB-4-376 |                  |                           |   |
|               | Rstr 3037210             | Action Copy      | DATE                      |   |
| FROM:         | 5th Armd Div Chaffse Ark | DATED            | 4/27/49                   |   |
| TO:           | IAXS                     | NO. INCLS.       | 0                         |   |
| RECORDING     | AXI-37661                | DATE             | 4/27/49                   | HOUR 1500   |
| DESK          |                          | RECORDED         |                           |   |
|               | ROUTED TO                | SUSPENSE DATE    | ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS) | DATE  |
| 1             | IAXS                     | N/R              | AWT                       | 4/28  |
| 2             |                          |                  |                           |   |
| 3             |                          |                  |                           |   |
| DATE OF REPLY | OTHER DISPOSITION:       |                  |                           | TRANSMITTAL<br>AMC FORM NO. 10-2<br>(20 NOV. 47)<br>SEE OTHER SIDE<br>FOR REMARKS |

TRANSMITTAL

RESTRICTED *dm* ATSC FORM NO. 80-506 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: *WASHDC* DATE *4/27/48* HOUR *1:00* IDENTIFICATION NUMBER *4-37210*

INCOMING  OUTGOING  COMPLETE FILE COPY  INCOMPL. FILE COPY  NO FILE COPY

FROM: *5th AND, LEAFLET ART.* TO: *WASHDC*

REG. NO. *OH IN: 15 4/27*

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

*Enc msg 4/26 (cy 1 thru 3 made 1-2 p ea) Cite: AUCB-4-376. ACTION*

INCLOSURES:

**5**

| TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)  | COPY NO. | REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE) | DATE REC'D | HOUR |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------------|------------|------|
| <i>1</i> <b>DCIA</b> | <i>1</i> |                           |            |      |
| <i>2</i> <b>XXS</b>  |          |                           |            |      |
| <i>3</i>             |          |                           |            |      |
| <i>4</i>             |          |                           |            |      |

RESTRICTED

Name and address of observer: [REDACTED], Fort Smith,  
Arkansas

Occupation and hobbies:

Special Delivery carrier US. Post Office, Fort Smith  
Farming and cattle raising

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of  
observer(s):

*Enjoys excellent reputation*

NARRATIVE SUMMARY: